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DOCKET NO.: 1020.P17876 (042390.P17876) **APLN. NO.:** 10/724,863

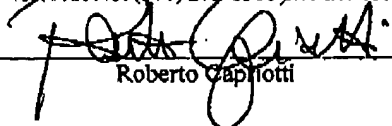
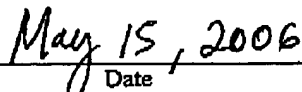
NO. OF PAGES: 19 (including cover sheet)

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Amendment and Response (18 pgs.)

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/724,863
Applicant : Akkary, Haitham H.
Filed : December 2, 2003
TC/A.U. : 2186
Examiner : Krofcheck, Michael C.

Docket No. : 42390.P17876

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Confirmation No.: 1592

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May 15, 2006
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Roberto Capriotti

Name of Person Mailing Correspondence

[Signature] May 15, 2006
Signature Date

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

SIR:

In response to the Office Action mailed on February 15, 2006, with the three-month shortened statutory period for response set to expire on May 15, 2006, please reconsider the above-identified application in view of the following amendments and/or remarks.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 5 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 11 of this paper.

An **Appendix** including amended drawing figures is attached following page 16 of this paper.